



Air Resources Board



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PM10 Hi-Volume Samplers November 2013

Issue

A finding by the 2011 U.S. EPA Technical Systems Audit (TSA-Item FO6) of Air Resources Board (ARB) field operations has asserted that PM make-up samples are not being taken in accordance with U.S. EPA guidance.

Solution

Effective immediately, ALL PM10 make-up samples collected by ARB and ARB PQAO Districts must adhere to the following:

1. Must be **collected prior** to the next scheduled sample day.
2. Collect **no more than six (6) make-up samples** in a calendar quarter.

In accordance with U.S. EPA's "1999 Guideline on Data Handling Conventions for the PM NAAQS", (www.epa.gov/ttn/caaa/t1/memoranda/pmfinal.pdf) make-up samples may count towards completeness for the quarter when collected no more than 7 days after the scheduled sample day. Any make-up samples conducted 7 days after a missed scheduled sample are still processed but considered "extra samples". Extra samples do not count towards quarterly completion requirements but may be used for site design value determination.

In addition, **no more than six (6) make-ups are permitted in a reportable quarter** and staff should not consistently rely on make-up samples to meet the requirements for data completeness.

ARB Staff must document missed sample and make-up information in their "weekly network status report" to management, on the PM10 24-hr Sampler Report and in the comment section of the PM10 QC form. Invalidated samples must be returned to the laboratory with the sampler report marked "invalid" by field staff with the reason for invalidation (motor failure, chart trace issues, etc.) and day of anticipated make-up run indicated in the comment box.

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The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our website: <http://www.arb.ca.gov>.

California Environmental Protection Agency